

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 (currently amended): Apparatus for supporting an individual and selectively alternatively employable as either a creeper or a stepladder, said apparatus comprising, in combination:

a platform including a generally planar first platform portion and a generally planar second platform portion, each of said first and second platform portions having a top surface and a bottom surface and proximal and distal ends;

at least one locking hinge hingedly connecting the proximal end of said first platform portion to the proximal end of said second platform portion, with said first and second platform portions being selectively movable relative to each other about said at least one locking hinge to form either a creeper configuration wherein said first and second platform portions are substantially co-planar or a stepladder configuration wherein said first and second platform portions define an angle therebetween of less than 180 degrees and more than 0 degrees and said apparatus is supported by and extending upwardly from the spaced distal ends of said angularly disposed first platform portion and said second platform portion, said at least one locking hinge cooperable with said first platform portion and said second platform portion to selectively alternatively lock said first platform portion and said second

platform portion against relative movement both when said first platform portion and said second platform portion are in said creeper configuration or in said stepladder configuration; and

wheels projecting downwardly from the bottom surfaces of said first and second platform portions for supporting said apparatus when said first and second platform portions are in said creeper configuration, and at least one of said first and second platform portions defining foot holes completely extending therethrough for receiving feet of an individual climbing the apparatus when said first and second platform portions are locked by said at least one locking hinge in said stepladder configuration.

2 (currently amended): The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein two locking hinges spaced from one another connect the proximal end of said first platform portion to the proximal end of said second platform portion.

3 (canceled)

4 (previously presented): The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said foot holes have an elongated, rectangular configuration.

5 (currently amended): The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said wheels comprise caster wheels, at least four caster wheels projecting downwardly from the bottom surfaces of each of said first and second platform portions, wherein each of

said first and second platform portions includes a plurality of upwardly projecting fenders defining fender interiors accommodating portions of said caster wheels, a pivotal interconnection existing between said caster wheels and fenders, and wherein said fenders define side fender openings communicating with the fender interiors.

6 - 9 (canceled)

10 (previously presented): The apparatus according to Claim 1 additionally comprising support surface engagement projections projecting from the distal ends of said first and second platform portions, said support surface engagement projections for engaging a floor or other support surface to support the apparatus when said first and second platform portions are in said stepladder configuration to resist slippage of the apparatus on the support surface.

11 (canceled)

12 (new): The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the top surfaces of said first platform portion and said second platform portion face outwardly and away from each other and wherein the bottom surfaces of said first platform portion and said second platform portion face inwardly and toward each other when said first platform portion and said second platform portion are in said stepladder configuration.